

April 26, 1948.

Mr. K. A. Jakob,  
412 West White Street,  
Champaign, Illinois.

Dear Mr. ~~Jakob~~ *Jakob*

Professor Bryan of our Botany Department, on the basis of your recent application, has referred you as likely to be interested in these remarks.

In addition to plant breeding and other investigations, the Department of Genetics has established facilities for research on the genetics of microorganisms under my direction. We are interested to obtain qualified students to work for Ph.D.'s in this field. Judging from your academic record and the work you reported on algae, you may be well qualified.

We have a vacancy in a research assistantship paying roughly \$100 per month with remission of non-resident fees. At present we are working on problems of gene action and mutation in Escherichia coli and Neurospora crassa, and on the possibility of antigenic recombination in the Salmonella group.

If you should be interested in this new and exciting field, I urge you to give it serious consideration for your doctorate, and to inform me as soon as possible whether you wish to be considered for the assistantship.

I should like to point out the possibility of accepting the assistantship for one year; if the problems were not to your liking you would be free to alter your plans. In addition, arrangements for joint majors are readily made.

These remarks are independent of the consideration by the Botany Dept. of your application there, but Professor Bryan has indicated that you would be free to implement your interest in this proposal regardless of their decisions.

If you are interested in these remarks, either a personal visit or the loan of a copy of your master's work, if available, would be of great assistance to me in deciding upon your qualifications, but need not be arranged now.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Assistant Professor of Genetics.